

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's further Office Action of April 16, 2007 issued with respect to the present RCE application, the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment of the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to omit recitation of the random number and first and second keys being randomly generated in a non-deterministic manner using physically random phenomena, and to specify calling of a test function in the trusted chip. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at page 50, line 30-page 52, line 15 and page 66, line 17-page 67, line 3 of the present specification;

dependent claim 11 is amended to omit recitation of the random number and first and second keys being randomly generated in a non-deterministic manner using physically random phenomena; and

dependent claims 2, 4, 5, 7-10, 12-14 and 16-20 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the Amendment does not add any new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 112, second paragraph Rejections

The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the clarity rejections of the claims based on the above-described amendment of claims 1 and 11 to omit recitation of the random number and first and second keys being randomly generated in a non-deterministic manner using physically random phenomena.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-14 and 16-20 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Carmon in view of any one or more of Sony, Spies and Schneier, for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to specify the calling of the test function of the trusted chip a random number of times by first repeatedly passing in a wrong hash value which returns a 0 and then passing in the returned value from the untrusted chip to determine the validity of the consumable. In this way, clone trusted chips which are manufactured to always return a 1 from the test function can be reliably detected (see page 66, line 17-page 67, line 3 of the present specification).

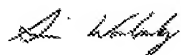
None of Carmon, Sony, Spies and Schneier teach or suggest calling a test function of a trusted authentication chip a random number of times as defined in amended claim 1.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 4, 5, 7-14 and 16-20 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Carmon, Sony, Spies and Schneier either taken alone or in combination with one another.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,

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